

# President presents first Medal of Honor

By Terri Lukach  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Two years to the day after his father died saving more than 100 fellow Soldiers in the battle for Baghdad’s airport, the young son of an Army NCO accepted his father’s Medal of Honor from President Bush at a White House ceremony Monday.

The president presented the nation’s highest award for combat gallantry to 11-year-old David Anthony Smith, son of Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith. Alongside the president and the boy were Smith’s widow, Birgit, and the couple’s 18-year-old daughter, Jessica.

This is the first time the Medal of Honor has been awarded for action in Operation Iraqi Freedom and the Global War on Terrorism.

Smith was part of the 3rd Infantry Division’s buildup for Operation Iraqi Freedom, and among the first wave of Soldiers that crossed the Kuwait border into Iraq on March 19, 2003, the first day of the war. He died saving the lives of at least 100 Soldiers who were badly outnumbered by enemy forces.

In presenting the award, Bush described Smith as “a Soldier whose service illustrates the highest ideals of leadership and love of our country.”

Bush recalled Smith’s early life and career in the Army and described the battle that took his life.

Smith’s mission, as the 3rd Infantry Division moved in to seize what is now known as Baghdad International Airport, was to build a holding area for enemy prisoners of war. “Sergeant Smith was leading about three dozen men,” Bush said, “when they were surprised by about 100 of Saddam Hussein’s Republican Guard.

“With complete disregard for his own life, and under constant enemy fire, Sergeant Smith rallied his men and led a counterattack. Seeing that his wounded men were in danger of being overrun, ... Sergeant Smith manned a .50-caliber machine gun atop a damaged armored vehicle.

“From a completely exposed position, he killed as many as 50 enemy Soldiers as he protected his men.” Bush said. “Sergeant Smith’s leadership saved the men in the courtyard, and he prevented an enemy attack on the aid station just up the road.”

Bush said Smith continued to fire until he “took a fatal round to the head. His actions in that courtyard saved the lives of more than 100 American Soldiers.” Soldiers who served with Smith described him as a stern disciplinarian who demanded much of the men under his command, Bush said. Yet Smith also demonstrated incredible concern, going out of his way to make life easier for his Soldiers and their families, he added.

In a letter he wrote to his parents from Iraq, but never mailed, Bush said, the sergeant called it a “privilege to be given 25 of the finest Americans we call Soldiers to lead into war.” Smith said he was prepared to give “all that I am to ensure that my boys make it home.”

In addition to being the global war on terror’s first Medal of Honor recipient, Smith is the first to earn a Medal of Honor flag, authorized by Congress in 2002.

“We count ourselves blessed to have Soldiers like Sergeant Smith, who put their lives on the line to advance the cause of freedom and protect the American people,” the president said. “Like every one of the men and women in uniform who have served in

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## Nick of time



Photo by Elaine Wilson

First Lt. Shannon Merkle struggles to the finish line of a 12-mile road march just under the three-hour time limit. Merkle was one of 14 Soldiers – out of 193 – who earned their Expert Field Medical Badge after a two-week course at Camp Bullis in March. See related article, Pages 16 and 17.

## Briefs . . .

### 32nd Brigade Run

The B.G. Johnson Track on Stanley Road will be closed to the public April 14 from 5 to 7 a.m. during the 32nd Brigade Run.

### Equine vaccination clinic

The Fort Sam Houston Veterinary Treatment Facility will sponsor an equine vaccination clinic Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon by appointment only. Owners must have a Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System ID card to receive services or a designated agent must have a power of attorney and a copy of the owner’s ID card. For more information, call 295-4260.

### Tax center extends operations

Due to overwhelming demand, the main Tax Assistance Center, located in Building 407 on Dickman Road, will remain open until April 29. The Brooke Army Medical Center Tax Center will still close April 15. The Tax Center will be open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday starting April 18 through April 29.

The Tax Center will be closed April 22 for the Battle of the Flowers training holiday. For more information or to make an appointment, call 295-1040. Tax returns must be filed/postmarked by midnight April 15.

### Camp Bullis User Conference

The Camp Bullis User Conference will be held May 5 from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Camp Bullis theater, Building 5900. The Outdoor Recreation Center will provide snacks and lunch. For more information, call 295-7592, 295-7686 or 295-7616.

### Service request procedures

For housing service requests, Fort Sam Houston residents can either sign a Permission to Enter form or schedule an appointment. The PTE allows Lincoln Military Housing to enter a house without the residents there, which expedites the service request. The PTE must be submitted in writing and can be changed any-

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## Living wills: a matter of life or death

By Elaine Wilson  
Public Information Office

The Schiavo saga has both captured and divided the nation as moral and legal questions have been raised over the right to live or die. While most people remain at odds over the underlying issues, most are in consensus on one topic – the importance of living wills.

“We’ve had a huge increase (in living wills) over the past couple of months because of the Schiavo case,” said Burton Brasher, chief of client services for the Fort Sam Houston Legal Assistance Office. “We’ve probably done more in the past two months than we’ve done in the past year. Although difficult, the case has definitely raised public awareness.”

Brasher defines a living will as a legal document that expresses people’s personal healthcare wishes when they’re unable to.

“If you’re incapacitated, a living will provides the doctor with guidance for your continued treatment,” said Brasher.

This guidance includes decisions related to extraordinary measures to sustain life, a goal the doctor aims for in the absence of a living will.

“Doctors are trained to do everything they can to preserve life,” Brasher said. “But not all people want to live like that, whether due to religious

beliefs, personal convictions or financial reasons.”

Living wills are particularly important for people heading into risky situations, such as combat or a medical procedure.

“It helps remove uncertainty,” Brasher said. “We have a lot of doctors sending patients over here before surgeries. They recognize the importance of the document. The more a doctor knows, the better he can do his job.”

There is no federal standard for living wills so many states have developed their own format. Texas, for example, has two documents, both referred to as living wills. One is a Texas Directive to Physicians and the other is a special Power of Attorney for Healthcare. The first expresses the patient’s personal desires in advance, and the other designates a “decision-maker” who would decide on the measures taken to preserve life at a later time. Either document is legally binding, but Brasher said people who have both documents should make sure neither one conflicts with the other.

“Make sure your personal wishes and the person you designate as your decision-maker in the power of attorney are on the same page,” he said.

Other states have just one document. And, in some states, organ donation is included in living wills while the choice to donate is designated

See **LIVING WILLS** on Page 3

# Commander urges people to be ‘everyday heroes’

By Maj. Gen. George W. Weightman  
AMEDDC&S and Fort Sam Houston commander

The Fort Sam Houston community is committed to putting an end to child abuse. It is for this reason that the Army designates April as Child Abuse Prevention Month. All children, from birth to 18 years of age, fall under the protection of federal and state laws against abuse and neglect. These

laws, along with military regulations, apply equally to infants and adolescents. They also apply to children with disabilities, in other words, all children. To be safe from abuse and neglect, our children need everyday heroes. Their first heroes are – or always should be – their parents. Beyond this we also depend on their grandparents and other family members, and, as they grow older, we depend on our neighbors, caregivers, teachers, coaches

and youth program leaders. On this installation, we have many resources to protect and support children, teens and families. Call the Family Advocacy Program at 221-9826 or 221-0349 if you have concerns about a child or a family and want to help. Be an everyday hero: Report suspected abuse and neglect to the Military Police at 221-2222. Children who grow up in a safe and secure community

become the leaders of the future. The entire Army community is responsible for making this future possible. In April and throughout the year join me in our effort to “Protecting Our Children, All The Time.” I fully support our Family Advocacy program in its child abuse prevention mission. Turn to them for information and assistance. Join us in protecting America’s future by protecting America’s children.



Maj. Gen. George W. Weightman

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Briefs cont. . . .

time. Appointments are scheduled based on the resident’s and maintenance staff’s availability in four-hour blocks with a nine-a-day maximum. For a service request, call the “Lincoln at Your Service” service request line at (888) 578-4141. For more information, call the Lincoln Military Housing office at 270-7638.

Legal office closures

The Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, Claims Division and the Legal Assistance Office will be closed April 21 for training and April 22 for a training holiday. The office will reopen April 25. For emergencies, call the on-call-officer at 393-3042.

Volunteer of the year

The Installation Volunteer Advisory Council will host the annual Installation Volunteer Recognition Ceremony and Reception May 11 from 10 a.m. to noon at the Sam Houston Club. For more information, call the Installation Volunteer Coordinator at 221-2705 or 221-2418.

Highly decorated Marine presents Purple Hearts

By Norma Guerra  
Brooke Army Medical Center Public Affairs

Two Marines received Purple Hearts during separate ceremonies at Brooke Army Medical Center March 23.

The first, Marine Staff Sgt. Ian C. LeJeune, was awarded the Purple Heart for injuries sustained in Iraq.

BAMC Commander Brig. Gen. C. William Fox Jr., welcomed guests, staff and LeJeune’s commander, Lt. Col. Dave P. Olszowy, who made the Purple Heart presentation.

“This ceremony is all about taking a little time out of our busy days to recognize the service and sacrifice of our fellow servicemen and women,” Fox said. “They serve with honor, dignity and pride and it is because of their sacrifices that we have the hope of freedom.”

LeJeune, a technical communications controller with the Marine Wing Communication Squadron at Miramar, Calif., was injured Feb. 23 by a rocket attack in Iraq.

Olszowy shared with the audience how inspired he was the night before after reading a book about Gen. George Washington and how he originated the Purple Heart medal.

“It took me back to why we do Purple

Heart ceremonies,” Olszowy said.

“It was General Washington’s small way of showing admiration and devotion for sacrifices of Soldiers.

“LeJeune is a steadfast, dedicated, loyal man who served two tours in Iraq. If there were ever complex or difficult situations everyone would always count on LeJeune. This is definitely one guy’s name that stood out,” said Olszowy.

After pinning the medal on the wounded warrior, Olszowy turned to the audience and said, “This is a simple award for a giant of a man.”

For the second presentation, Retired Marine Col. Jay R.

Vargas, who received the Congressional Medal of Honor for heroic actions while under heavy enemy fire during combat in Vietnam, presented a Marine with a Purple Heart at a bedside ceremony.

Lance Cpl. John T. Schmidt, from the 3rd Battalion, 8th Marine Division, received a Purple Heart for injuries sustained Jan. 30 from a rocket-propelled grenade attack in Iraq.



Photo by Kelly Schaefer  
Marine Lt. Col. Dave P. Olszowy pins a Purple Heart on Marine Staff Sgt. Ian LeJeune during a ceremony at Brooke Army Medical Center, where LeJeune is recovering from injuries sustained in Iraq. Olszowy is LeJeune’s commander.

Schmidt’s mother and stepfather attended the ceremony.

Aside from the Medal of Honor, Vargas has also received the Silver Star, five Purple Hearts, the Combat Action Ribbon, the Meritorious Service Medal, and the Vietnamese Gallantry Cross with silver star and palm.

Environmental Management System: everyone’s responsibility

By Yolanda Hagberg  
Public Information Office

“Army policy requires excellence in environmental stewardship. Fort Sam Houston’s challenge is to remain a national leader in environmental, energy, and natural resources protection as an integral part of our mission,” states a policy memorandum signed by Col. Garry Atkins, U.S Army Garrison commander. This policy applies to all Fort Sam Houston and Camp Bullis military personnel and civilian and contract employees.

Environmental Management System is the latest word on mandatory training. The EMS is better known as eMS with an emphasis on the lower case letter “e,” as the “e” stands for everybody.

“The eMS is designed to bring the Army’s operation

procedures into compliance with environmental standards and to train all those employed, to instill a mind-set that will further support the Army’s mission and provide sustainability to all Army installations,” said James Graham Jr., director, Environmental and Natural Resources Office.

As a result of the training, there are three things every Soldier, civilian employee and support contractor at Fort Sam Houston and Camp Bullis must know:

- The basic contents of the Commander’s Policy Letter, which includes: commitment to continual improvement; commitment to prevent pollution; and commitment to comply with environmental laws and regulations and with other requirements to which we subscribe, including our own plans and Standard Operating Procedures.
- The environmental impacts of your job. Know the pos-

sible causes of environmental impacts from the activities you perform and manage your activities using proper procedures. If you have been designated to perform an activity that could result in a significant environmental impact, you must know how to properly manage that activity. Significant environmental impacts are those impacts designated by your leadership and documented in your eMS plan.

- To actively manage continual improvement with an overall goal of minimizing significant mission and environmental impacts.

For more information, visit the post’s Intranet eMS page (<http://www.samhouston.army.mil/ems>), the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Internet site ([www.abouttexasems.org](http://www.abouttexasems.org)), or talk to your supervisor, unit environmental compliance officer, or the eMS coordinator in the environmental office at 221-4842.

Medal of Honor

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Operation Iraqi Freedom, Sergeant Paul Smith was a volunteer.

“We thank his family for the father, husband and son and brother who can never be replaced,” Bush continued. “We recall with appreciation the fellow soldiers whose lives he saved and the many more he inspired. And we express our gratitude for a new generation of Americans every bit as selfless and dedicated to liberty as any that has gone on before, a dedication exemplified by the sacrifice and valor of Sgt. 1st Class Paul Ray Smith.”

Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld, Joint Chiefs Chairman Air Force Gen. Richard B. Myers, Joint Chiefs Vice Chairman Marine Gen. Peter Pace, Army Secretary Francis Harvey and Army Chief of Staff Gen. Pete Schoomaker were on hand at the White House for the ceremony. Also present were Soldiers from the Army’s 3rd Infantry Division, Smith’s unit in Iraq.



Photo by Eric Draper  
President George W. Bush places his hand on the shoulder of 11-year-old David Smith after he presented the young man with the Medal of Honor, awarded his father, Sgt. 1st Class Paul Smith, posthumously Monday during ceremonies at the White House. Joining David on stage are his stepsister Jessica and his widow, Birgit Smith.



3rd Infantry photo  
(From left) Sgt. Matthew Keller, Pvt. Michael Seaman and Sgt. 1st Class Paul Smith work together in the days leading up to the action that led to Smith’s death. The three Soldiers fought with B Company, 11th Engineer Battalion in action with the 3rd Infantry Division.

Living wills

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through the driver’s license system in others.

Whatever the differences, Brasher recommends a living will based on where people live, whether a resident or not, to remove the “guess work.”

“It’s best to have one for the state you live in or PCS to so the local doctor has a document he’s familiar with,” he said.

However, since each state has its own format, the legal office here includes a header that asks for the will to be recognized nationwide.

Another way to avoid potential problems is to update living wills every two to three years so there’s recent proof and “less questions raised about whether you still feel the same way as you did when you signed the document,” Brasher said.

People also should talk to their health-

care providers, particularly when undergoing a medical procedure.

“Find out the consequences of the procedure beforehand,” Brasher said. “That way, you can include specific requests in your living will. For instance, if you don’t want a feeding tube you can say so in the directive.”

Such a directive can be the difference between a private decision and a national debate.

Any military legal assistance office can prepare living wills free of charge to active-duty military members, family members, retirees and reservists on active duty for 30-plus days.

The Fort Sam Houston legal assistance office prepares them on a walk-in basis from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays at Building 134 on Stanley Road. For more information, call 221-2282 or 221-2353.



# Ceremonies honor World War II anniversary, salute veterans

Story by Phil Reidinger  
Public Affairs Office

Veterans known as America’s greatest generation and their family members enjoyed a special salute during two recent events: the 60th anniversary of World War II commemoration ceremony at La Villita Assembly Hall Sunday and the Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery’s World War II ceremony Monday.

At La Villita, local military leaders and World War II veterans, Brig. Gen. David Lee “Tex” Hill, and Brig. Gen. Robert McDermott, both retired U.S. Air Force, described the sacrifices of veterans and their families who served “for the duration” in the European and Pacific theaters.

City Councilman Carroll Schubert noted that San Antonio is a special place with more than 50,000 military personnel assigned to military commands in the city. “Today is an opportunity for our community to say thank you,” said Schubert.

McDermott said that of the 68 million citizens that served during World War II, 4 million are still alive and 250,000 live in Texas. Comparing the dangers of combat, he noted that the chances of being killed in combat during World War II was 1 in 16 compared to 1 in 41 in Korea and 1 in 610 during the Gulf War.

During the ceremony at the cemetery, Army retired Lt. Gen. Harry Soyster, special assistant to the Secretary of the Army, told World War II veterans, “You answered the call for the right to live in a world free of tyranny. All ordinary people were asked to make extraordinary sacrifices during an extraordinary time in our history.”

He went on to note that the warrior spirit evidenced by today’s men and women serving in Iraq and Afghanistan is based on the World War II veterans’ achievements. Soyster said that America can never forget the terrible price in blood and sacrifice paid by World War II veterans to secure the nation’s freedoms.



Photos by Esther Garcia  
City Councilman Carroll Schubert presents the honorable service lapel pin to Gabriela Fewox, who represented World War II Marine Corps veterans at La Villita Assembly Hall Sunday at a Department of Defense ceremony recognizing the 60th anniversary of the end of World War II. Schubert presented pins to representatives of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard and Merchant Marine veterans.



Hundreds of veterans from San Antonio area communities attend the 60th anniversary of World War II commemoration ceremony Sunday at La Villita Assembly Hall.



(Left) Fort Sam Houston Girl and Boy Scouts, Troops 526 and 23, DeMonica Gonzalez, Katherine Teeter, Joshua McMillie and Geoffrey Candia, stand by to lead the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance as the Joint Service Color Guard presents the colors at the 60th anniversary of World War II commemoration ceremony Sunday at La Villita Assembly Hall.



Photo by Phil Reidinger  
Army retired Lt. Gen. Harry Soyster and William Trower, director of the Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery, pass through the Cole High School ROTC saber guard carrying wreaths to present at the circle of flags in honor of World War II veterans. The wreath presentation and memorial ceremony was held at the cemetery Monday.



(Left) Army retired Lt. Gen. Harry Soyster, special assistant to the Secretary of the Army, visits with one of several thousands of veterans who attended the 60th anniversary of World War II commemoration ceremony Sunday at La Villita Assembly Hall.



# Residents play active role in move-out process

Residents of Fort Sam Houston Family Housing with an assignment must provide Lincoln Military Housing written notice of their intent to vacate at least 30 days prior to their move-out date.

If residents want to move-out when their Family Housing Occupancy Agreement expires, they must provide written notice to LMH 30 days prior to the expiration date.

If PCS orders do not allow for a 30-day notice, service members must also provide a copy of their orders.

After notice is received, LMH will schedule a pre-inspection walk-through by an LMH representative and the sponsor, spouse or designated representative. LMH will schedule the pre-inspection 10 days from the date of the acceptance of notice to vacate. The original move-in condition form documenting the condition of the home at move-in will be used during the pre-inspection to ensure noted deficiencies are not charged to the resident upon move-out. The pre-inspection will provide the resident an understanding of normal wear and tear expected versus excessive wear.

After the pre-inspection, residents will be informed of any potential charges that may be assessed if damage identified and noted repairs are not completed prior to move-out. Residents are financially responsible for damages beyond normal wear and tear. Additionally, residents are responsible for submitting service requests for damages identified during the inspection prior to the final inspection. Residents should immediately report all losses or damages affecting their home or community to “Lincoln at Your Service” service line, to avoid liability for repair of damages caused by negligence.

Residents also will be provided a list of the minimum cleaning standards and are responsible for completing the list, which includes:

- Sweep and mop all vinyl, ceramic and tile flooring so the surface is free of dirt or debris.
- Patch small holes with spackling compound and wipe excess patching material with a damp sponge.
- Prime dark colored walls. Painting is not required unless primer does not cover.

- Ensure lights and appliances have working light bulbs.
- Clean interior and exterior surfaces of appliances.

If a home has been scheduled for renovation or demolition, LMH will provide modified cleaning requirements. Residents may hire a company to clean their home at their own expense, provided the vendor is able to complete the cleaning for the resident before the final walk-through and meet standards identified during the pre-inspection.

The move-out date is the date issued keys and remotes are returned to an LMH representative. Personal belongings must be removed from the home before that time.

A final inspection will be completed on the resident’s last day of occupancy. The final inspection will be a walk-through to ensure completion of items noted during pre-inspection and ensure there is no new damage. Damage beyond normal wear and tear identified during the final inspection will be documented in writing and photograph. The extent of the damage will be detailed, and a final accounting of any out-

standing damages will be completed immediately after the final inspection. Residents will need to settle their account with LMH, and must pay all outstanding balances in full or create a payment plan within seven days of move-out.

A resident’s rent is paid in arrears. Residents who move out of Fort Sam Houston Family Housing will receive a refund check from LMH after their rent allotment has been credited by Defense Finance and Accounting Services. For example, if the resident’s move-out date is June 15, the allotment stop date is July 1, and the resident will receive a prorated refund of any rent due for June 15 to June 30 at the address provided by the resident during the final inspection. Regardless of the account balance, residents will receive a settlement statement from LMH.

Service requests should be submitted to “Lincoln at Your Service” service request line is (888) 578-4141. For more information, call the LMH office at 270-7638.

(Source: Residential Communities Initiative Office)

# Ambassadors, ‘king’ ready for Fiesta



Photos by Esther Garcia

Command Sgt. Maj. Timothy Burke, Army Medical Department Center and School, presents coins to the Army, Navy, Marine and Air Force military ambassadors for their achievements and selection to represent their services during the city-wide Fiesta celebrations, which begin April 15 with an opening ceremony at the Alamo.

Staff. Sgt. Jose Rocha, Fort Sam Houston Military Ambassador, meets Robert Tips, 2005 “El Rey Feo” (the ugly king), at the Fiesta Military Ambassador reception sponsored by the Officer and Civilian Spouses’ Club, March 24 at the San Antonio Country Club. Tips success in raising money to provide scholarships for San Antonio college students earned him the crown.



Col. Bradley Freeman, 32nd Medical Brigade commander, visits with Chuck Blishe, executive director of the San Antonio Fiesta Commission; King Antonio LXXXIII, Clifton Douglass; and his Knight Aide, Dick Cavender. During his reign as King Antonio, Douglass will visit schools, military bases, hospitals and nursing homes. Through the Texas Cavaliers Charitable Foundation, King Antonio will disburse more than \$100,000 to a multitude of children’s charities in the community in 2005.



Courtesy photo

Pfc. Anthony Cagno assists Pfc. Jose Rivera with anatomy and physiology. Cagno, a student in the 91D operating room technician course, is winner of the C Company Tiger of the Month competition.

## 187th C Company student wins Tiger of the Month competition

By Pfc. Chris Smith  
C Company, 187th Medical Battalion

Pfc. Anthony Cagno, a student in the 91D operating room technician course and a civilian surgical technologist, is winner of the C Company, 187th Medical Battalion Tiger of the Month competition.

“It’s a great feeling,” says Cagno. “When I was told that I would represent my class for Soldier of the month, I knew that it was my chance to improve myself as a Soldier and as a person. When the opportunity comes, you should go in with a good state of mind about trying to be a great Soldier.”

Cagno will earn his official certification in the civilian world once he completes the second phase as a 91D.

“The course through the military has been a lot different from the course as a surgical tech in the civilian world,” said Cagno. “As an operating room tech, I am getting a great amount of hands on experience that wouldn’t be easy to obtain as a civilian. Before I joined the Army, I would learn from books and videos. Now that I am in the military, I can learn from my experience in the field.”

“My No. 1 goal while in the Army is to further my education,” he added. “I don’t want to be stuck doing just one thing. I want to learn more in different areas of the medical field. I have the opportunity to improve upon myself through my education in the Army by not staying focused in one specialty.”



# Donations, volunteers continue to support Soldiers, families

Story and photos by Phil Reidinger  
Public Affairs Office

Every day, volunteers from local and post communities deliver baked goods, phone cards, model cars, puzzles, movies, quilts and toys to the Soldier and Family Assistance Center.

The post Protestant congregations dedicated their Easter collection to the SFAC, contributing \$13, 351.37 to center operations. Representatives from Lincoln Military Housing, which manages post quarters, stopped by to deliver 200 12-minute phone cards and tickets for the regional basketball tournament in Austin, Texas.

Judith Markelz, center coordinator, maintains a waiting list of volunteers wanting to donate time to center operations.

“It is an incredibly heartwarming experience to work here and experience the emotions of the Soldiers and their families when they meet volunteers and folks coming to donate items,” she said. “It is impossible for me to put into words how much they recognize and appreciate the efforts of the local community and communities to help them recuperate from their injuries.”



(Upper left) Chere Harper and Judith Markelz accept a donation of 200 phone cards and tickets to the Final Four regional basketball games in Austin, Texas, from Allyson McKay, Lincoln Military Housing, along with post Residential Communities Initiative staff members Patricia Baker and Teresa ElHabr.



(Above) Chaplains James Benson, Edward Maney and Kwon Pyo present a check for \$13,351.37 to Judith Markelz and Chere Harper at the Soldier and Family Assistance Center. The Fort Sam Houston Protestant congregations dedicated their Easter Sunday offerings to support Soldiers and their families.

(Left) Jane Carter discusses her volunteer experience at the Solider and Family Assistance Center with new volunteer Theresa Parker.

# High school band students observe Army musicians at work

Story and photos by Esther Garcia  
Public Affairs Office

The Army Medical Command Band was the host for approximately 40 high school band students from Yorkville High School, Ill., who visited Fort Sam Houston as part of their annual spring trip.

The students arrived at MacArthur Parade Field Wednesday and observed the Army Medical Command Band practice for a retirement ceremony. While they watched, Chief Warrant Officer John Fraser spoke about opportunities for Soldier musicians in the Army.

Yorkville High School band students then joined members of the band at the former Officers' Club for an opportunity to practice



Tuba player Staff Sgt. Santos Godineaux gives advice to Nicole Milliron, also a tuba player, before practice begins at the former Officers' Club.

with the Army Medical Command Band conducted by Fraser.

"It was a lot of fun," said senior Robert Cool, who plans to minor in music. "Being a musician, it was interesting to talk about the whole music program."

"I enjoyed it," said Heather King. "It gave me confidence knowing I can sit down and play."

The "Sin Limites" Latino Army Medical Command Band, which performs various Latino-style music, then treated the group to a performance.

The students' itinerary included performances in San Antonio and Corpus Christi, Texas.



Yorkville High School band students from Yorkville, Ill., practice with members of the Army Medical Command Band led by Chief Warrant Officer John Fraser at the former Officers' Club Wednesday during their visit to Fort Sam Houston.



# Post Pulse: To whom would you report alleged or suspected child abuse?



*"I would call Child Protective Services, the military police or make a report to the commander."*  
Capt. Cassandra Mims  
Academy Battalion



*"I would contact the Family Advocacy Program."*  
Gloriane Santos  
military spouse



*"I would call the military police or the fire department."*  
Pfc. Eric Miller  
Brooke Army  
Medical Center



*"I would contact Child Protective Service or the military police on post."*  
Master Sgt.  
William Johnson  
Fifth U.S. Army

**The correct answer: On post, call the military police at 221-2222 and off post, call your local law enforcement.**

## Safety awareness education can protect children against harm

By Ingrid Bethel-Constable  
Family Advocacy Program Educator

As child abductions and child injuries in the news today seem to be on the rise, parents are asking for tips on how to keep their children safe both at home and away from home.

Parents can help their children by providing them with information and skills to help keep them safe and more self-assured. Children and parents should periodically review any safety strategy for effectiveness and as children mature.

Incorporate safety habits into daily life, and they will come more naturally to your child when needed. It helps to ask your child many "what if" questions in order to see how they would respond in different situations. Role play scenarios with them such as if you are walking home from school and a stranger in a car approaches you asking

for directions, what would you do?

While we know the answer would be to stay away from the car and run away, the child may not. Developing safety habits takes time and practice, but it can be done. Here are some tips on keeping children safe in different scenarios:

**- Public areas (mall, supermarket, airport):**

- Teach children to stay away from isolated areas.
- Teach them where to go for help if you become separated (cashier, security officer, customer service).
- It is never too early to teach children their own names, address and telephone numbers, but they should also know their parents' full name.
- Teach them a code word that only someone you send to get them would know, and let them know they are not to tell anyone the code word.

**- Strangers:**

- Explain and ask them who a stranger is.
- Ask what they would do if approached by someone who asks them to help look for their lost dog (say no loudly; run and tell someone).
- Have someone you trust but that the kids don't know try to lure them away, and then discuss what happened and what should have been done.

**- School safety:**

- Tell them to ask teachers for help if feeling uncomfortable or threatened.
- Tell them to let teachers know if they are being bullied.

**- Internet safety:**

- Parents should become involved in their children's Internet activities by encouraging kids to share their Internet experiences with them.
- Be sure children know to not ever

give out address, phone number or other personal information, including where they go to school or where they like to play.

- Tell your children that they should never meet online friends in person. Explain that online friends may not be who they say they are.
- Control your children's online activity with parental controls which can help you filter out harmful content, monitor the sites your child visits and find out what they do there.

A Web site which contains some of the acronyms used to instant message is <http://www.netlingo.com/emailsh.cfm>.

To obtain further training on this subject, attend a Child Safety Class offered every month at Army Community Service. For more information or to register for this or any other classes, call 221-0349 or 221-2418. Classes are open to all Department of Defense ID card holders.



# From followers to leaders



Photo by Capt. John Halak

Command Sgt. Maj. Keith Seidler, 232nd Medical Battalion command sergeant major, welcomes a Soldier into the NCO Corps Friday at the 32nd Medical Brigade NCO Induction Ceremony. The event marks the transformation of followers into leaders and is the first time the ceremony was conducted here in almost a year. Seventeen NCOs from throughout the brigade were welcomed into the NCO Corps. Command Sgt. Maj. Michael Kelley, the 32nd Med. Bde. command sergeant major, administered the NCO oath. The guest speaker was the new commandant of the Army Medical Department NCO Academy, Command Sgt. Maj. Howard Riles.

## 2005 annual ethics training schedule

Ethics training for U.S. Army Medical Department Center and School and Fort Sam Houston Garrison units has begun for 2005:

| Date     | Start Time | Location          |
|----------|------------|-------------------|
| April 27 | 9 a.m.     | Blesse Auditorium |
| May 6    | 9 a.m.     | Evans Auditorium  |
| May 19   | 9 a.m.     | Blesse Auditorium |

Blesse Auditorium is in Building 2841 and Evans Auditorium is in Building 1396. The training takes about one hour. The Secretary of the Army requires every Soldier and civil service employee to attend ethics training annually. The staff judge advocate and officials from the AMEDDC&S and post will present the training and maintain sign-in rosters for commanders and supervisors to verify attendance of their employees. People can access the sign-in rosters by opening the Adobe Acrobat Reader and the SJA ethics roster folder on the G drive. Sessions for the hearing impaired will be scheduled and announced as required. For more information, call Gerald Krimbill, Shelby Tanner or Capt. Brian Underdahl at 221-2373 or 221-0485.



April Health Promotion calendar

| Class                       | Date      | Time                |
|-----------------------------|-----------|---------------------|
| Self Care and Health        | Friday    | 9 to 11 a.m.        |
| Breastfeeding Support Group | Friday    | 1 to 2:30 p.m.      |
| Pediatric Asthma            | Friday    | 2 to 3:30 p.m.      |
| Diabetes Education          | Monday    | 12:45 to 4:30 p.m.  |
| Diabetes Foot Care          | Monday    | 1 to 2:30 p.m.      |
| Colonoscopy                 | Tuesday   | 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. |
| Diabetes Education          | Tuesday   | 12:45 to 4:30 p.m.  |
| Breast and GYN              |           |                     |
| Cancer Support Group        | Wednesday | 9:30 to 11 a.m.     |
| Office Yoga                 | Wednesday | 12 to 1 p.m.        |

    To schedule Diabetes Education through the Internal Medicine Clinic, call 916-0794. A colonoscopy requires a consult from a primary care manager to the Gastroenterology Clinic.

Army Community Service

Family Advocacy Program April Class Schedule

|                                |               |                          |
|--------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| Divorce Care                   | today, 14, 21 | 11:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. |
| Teen Talk                      | today and 21  | 4 to 5 p.m.              |
| You and Your Baby              | Wednesday     | 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.        |
| S.T.E.P. Program               | 15 and 29     | 9 to 11:30 a.m.          |
| for Early Childhood            |               |                          |
| Building Effective Anger       | 17 and 21     | 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.    |
| Management Skills Series (5-6) |               |                          |
| Healthy Pregnancy              | 18            | 12 to 3 p.m.             |
| Child Safety                   | 18            | 1 to 2:30 p.m.           |

    To sign up for classes or for more information, call the ACS Family Advocacy Program at 221-0349 or 221-2418.

Texas Army Guard offers physician assistant opportunity

Texas Army National Guard Soldiers with medical experience have a unique opportunity to become physician assistants. But those who want to become PAs must act by April 15.

The Army Medical Department of the TXARNG will convene a board May 12 to interview potential candidates wanting to attend the Inter-Service Physician Assistant Program course, with classes beginning in 2006. Only three class seats will be available, but the top five applicants will be placed on an order of merit list.

Applicants must contact the AMEDD office to com-

plete a prerequisites checklist, which is accessible at [www.cs.amedd.army.mil/ipap](http://www.cs.amedd.army.mil/ipap). If they meet the prerequisites, they must submit an official, raised seal, sealed transcript to the AMEDD office no later than April 15.

Applicants must also download the packet checklist, complete their packet and submit it in electronic form along with the hard copy no later than May 5.

AMEDD points of contact are Capt. Rita Holton, (512) 782-5491; Command Sgt. Maj. Maria Nieto, (512) 782-5163; and Sgt. 1st Class Pat Butler, (512) 782-5424.

(Source: Texas National Guard news release)

TRICARE introduces new Web-based pharmacy search tool

TRICARE has introduced a new pharmacy “Formulary Search Tool,” an automated Web tool that checks the availability of medications at military treatment facilities. The Formulary Search Tool allows the user to search by medication or medical condition and provides details on side effects as well as common and unusual prescription interactions. Beneficiaries should consult their providers for specific questions regarding their medications and physical conditions. For more information, visit the TRICARE Pharmacy Web site at [www.tricare.osd.mil/pharmacy](http://www.tricare.osd.mil/pharmacy). The search tool can also be accessed directly at [www.tricareformularysearch.org](http://www.tricareformularysearch.org).

Health Fair

The Principles of Military Preventive Medicine Course, Community Health Nurse track will sponsor a Health Fair Tuesday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Army Medical Department Center and School’s Willis Hall, Building 2841. The Health Fair will feature exhibits by Brooke Army Medical Center, Jimmy Brought Fitness Center, Budge Dental Clinic, Family Advocacy, the Fort Sam Houston Safety Office, Medical Command, Stimson Library and Metro Health.



# SPORTS

## 232nd basketball

**B Company females win brigade championship, male team takes second**

By 1st Lt. Jezamine J. Baling  
232nd Medical Battalion

B Company’s Lady Bulldogs from the 232nd Medical Battalion squared off against the C Company, 232nd Med. Bn. team March 29 for the 32nd Medical Brigade championship, and emerged victorious for their second championship in a row.

The Bulldogs had won the battalion championship the week before and were eager to “show their stuff” in the final match.

Staff Sgt. Jacques Lenoir’s coaching spurred the Bulldogs to maintain a lead throughout the game, bringing them to victory with a final crushing score of 55-6.

Col. Bradley Freeman, 32nd Medical Brigade commander, presented the most valuable player, Pvt. Jessica Serfling, a 32nd Med. Bde. Coin of Excellence.

As for the male B Company Bulldogs, it turned out to be a feat to make it to the brigade championship. The Soldier medics had endured some unfortunate losses but came back hard-charged in following games, advancing them to the championship. Their progression to the top was neck and neck with the D Company, 187th Med. Bn. team throughout the tournament, as was their fight throughout the final game.

The grueling battle ended with a final score of 28-36 and a second place standing for the team.



Courtesy photo Pfc. Opal Silvey’s domination of the game made it easy for the B Company, 232nd Medical Battalion’s Lady Bulldogs to rollover the Lady Cougars of C Company, 232nd Md. Bn. 55-6. This is the team’s second 32nd Medical Brigade championship.

## 232nd Med. Bn. participates in ‘Race for the Cure’

By 1st Sgt. Armand Fermin  
232nd Medical Battalion

More than 300 Soldier medics from the 232nd Medical Battalion participated in the 2005 Susan B. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation Race for the Cure Saturday at the Alamodome.

The Soldiers joined 30,000 other walkers and runners from the San Antonio area to raise money and awareness for the fight against breast cancer.

The 232nd Med. Bn. was one of 392 teams and the largest military formation that participated in the race that raised more than \$303,000 for the fight against breast cancer.

First Sgt. Raymond Price from D Company and 1st Sgt. Armand Fermin from C Company organized the 232nd Med. Bn.’s participation in the event that included Soldier medics from throughout the organization.

### SPORTS BRIEFS . . .

#### **BAMC tops for flag football**

Brooke Army Medical Center won the spring flag football post season tournament beating A Company, Special Troops Battalion, 20-13. BAMC clinched its victory by scoring the winning touchdown with 32 seconds left in the game. A Company had the ball last but could not score to either tie or win the game.

#### **Basketball camp**

The Ten Star All Star Summer Basketball Camp is accepting final applications from 10 to 19-year-olds. Past participants include Michael Jordan, Tim Duncan and Vince Carter. College basketball scholarships are possible for players accepted to the All-American Team. For more information and camp locations, call (704) 373-0873.

#### **All Army Men’s Basketball**

Applications are being accepted through April 20 for the All Army Men’s Basketball team. The Trial Camp is June 21 to July 16. People can pick up applications from the Intramural and Varsity Sports office at the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center. For more information, call Earl Young at 221-1180.

#### **Track and field registration**

The Fort Sam Houston Amateur Athletic Union Track and Field Club registration will continue through May 20. Registration is open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Youth Center, Building 1630, for 5- to 18-year-olds. Fees are \$75 for military, retirees and Department of Defense personnel, and \$85 for civilians. Uniforms will be provided. Practice days are Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the Cole High School track. Military and DoD personnel must be registered with Child and Youth Services. For more information, call 221-3502 or 221-5513, or Coach Avery Chester at 279-4366.

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO LIQUIDATE YOUR CREDIT CARD DEBT?**

**IT CAN HAPPEN.**

The Financial Readiness Program at Army Community Service offers this new service. For more information, call 221-1612.



# RELIGIOUS HAPPENINGS . . .

### Passover service

Passover will be observed from sundown April 23 through sunset May 1 directly following the Sabbath. April 24, 25 and 30 and May 1 are days of religious obligation for Jewish people. Leave should be granted whenever possible to enable Jewish people to properly observe the festival and the preceding Sabbath.

### OCF Bible study

The upcoming Officers’ Christian Fellowship Bible study sessions will be April 15, 29 and May 13 at 1008 Gorgas Circle near old Brooke Army Medical Center. Dinner is 6 p.m. and class is 7 p.m. For more information, call Lt. Col. Bob Griffith at 226-1295 or e-mail rgriffith3@satx.rr.com.

### Run, walk for humanitarian aid

Ambassadors For Christ, a local organization, is planning a trip to Rwanda, Africa, to provide humanitarian aid to churches, schools and orphanages. To raise finances for the trip, Ambassadors For Christ will host a 5K run and 2-mile walk April 16 at the Olmos Park in Alamo Heights at 8 a.m. For more information, call Erika at 479-0000.

# INTERFAITH CALENDAR . . .

- Wednesday or April 14: Baisakhi (Vaisakhi)\*** – Sikh is the Hindu start of the new year. In Sikhi, the day commemorates the founding of the Khalsa, a distinctive Sikh brotherhood.
  - April 18: Ramanavami \*\*** – This is the Hindu celebration of the birth of Lord Rama, hero of the religious epic poem, “The Ramayana.” The day involves telling stories and going to the temple.
  - April 21: Mawlid an Nabi** – Islamic commemoration of the birthday of Prophet Muhammad, founder of Islam, in about 570 c.e. Not universally observed. The prophet’s teachings are read and religious meetings are held.
  - April 21 to May 2: Ridvan \*** – Baha’i commemoration of the 12-day period in 1863 when Baha’u’llah declared that he was God’s messenger for this age. Work is to be suspended on the first, ninth and 12th day of the festival.
  - April 24 to May 1: Passover \*** – Eight-day Jewish celebration of the deliverance of the Jews from slavery in Egypt. The story of the Exodus is recounted, and the ongoing struggle for freedom from internal and external tyranny is celebrated.
  - April 24: Palm Sunday** – Orthodox Christian
  - April 24: Vesak - Buddha Day** – This is the holiest of Buddhist holy days. It celebrates Buddha’s birth, enlightenment and death.
  - April 29: Holy Friday** – Orthodox Christian
  - April 30: St. James the Great Day** – The Orthodox Christian recognition of the martyrdom of the Apostle James the Great in 44 c.e.
- \* Usually begins at sundown the day before this date. \*\* Local customs may vary on this date.

## Gardner salutes retirees



Photo by Ed Dixon

(From left) Staff Sgt. Scott Dubray, Sgt. 1st Class Randy Teeter, Chief Warrant Officer Laverne Witherspoon, Maj. Beverly Rose, Lt. Col. Hector Martinez and Sgt. Maj. George Swarner are recognized for their service to the Army and the nation at the awards and retirement ceremony held at MacArthur Parade Field on March 31. Maj. Gen. John Gardner, U.S. Army South commander, was the host.



# MWR

## Recreation and fitness

### Garage sale

Clean out your closets for the next garage sale, which is May 7 from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the MacArthur Pavilion parking lot, located on the corner of Harry Wurzbach and Stanley Roads. People interested in selling must have a valid Department of Defense ID card. There is no cost; however, participants must pre-register. MWR provides a space in the parking lot; participants must bring their own tables or rent one at the Outdoor Equipment Center by calling 221-5224. For more information or to pre-register, call 221-2926 or 221-2307.

### 60 Days of Fitness

This motivating fitness and weight loss program helps people safely lose 15 pounds in 60 days using a point system. This self-paced program requires people to workout 45 out of 60 days and includes a seven-page fitness assessment, body fat analysis and body measurements. Participants will also attend two 30-minute weight loss classes. The cost for the program is \$20. For more information, call Lucian Kimble at 221-2020.

### 3-D archery at Camp Bullis

The next 3-D archery shoot is April 23 and 24. Check-in is from 8 to 10 a.m. This competitive shoot includes 30 3-D animal targets placed at unknown distances ranging from 10 to 40 yards in a woodland setting. Awards will be presented to the top three in each class. Saturday’s shoot is \$15, all competitive, and Sunday’s shoot is either competitive for \$15, or noncompetitive for \$10. Minis and cubs shoot free with a paid adult and a playground is available. For more information, call 295-7577.

### Free fun run

A free 5K run/walk will be at the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center April 23 at 10 a.m. Participants receive a free T-shirt. For more information, call 221-2020.

### Senior Olympics archery tournament

Fort Sam Houston will host the tournament at the outdoor archery range Sunday from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Archers will compete for a gold medal for shooting at 60-, 50- and 40-yard intervals. For more information, call the Outdoor Equipment Center at 221-5224 or 221-5225.

### Health and Wellness Fair

Stop by the free Health and Wellness Fair Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center. Event highlights include cholesterol screening, diabetes screening, proper weight training, nutrition information and much more. Free food and raffles will be available for those who attend. People who wish to have a cholesterol screening should fast 12 hours before the screening. For more information, call 221-2020.



**Win Spurs tickets on the spot**

Throughout April, visit Morale Welfare and Recreation facilities where facility managers will randomly award four Spurs tickets to patrons for a home game in April. Get phone numbers and locations online at [www.fortsamhoustonmwr.com](http://www.fortsamhoustonmwr.com).

### Catfish pond at Camp Bullis

The catfish pond is open Saturdays and Sundays from noon to 6 p.m. The pond is pay-as-you-go. Catfish are \$1.75 per pound, live weight. Catch and release is not authorized. A fishing license is not required, and there is no daily fee. For more information, call 295-7577.

## Dining and Entertainment

### Sam Houston Club, 224-2721

#### Sunday brunch

The Sunday brunch is April 24 from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and is \$11.95 for members, \$13.95 for nonmembers.

#### Sam’s sports bar

Sam’s Sports Bar will feature San Antonio’s Hottest D.J.s Friday. The bar opens at 4:30 p.m.

#### Bingo

Come play bingo Thursday and Friday nights and Saturday afternoons. Free buffet is available for bingo players.

#### Weekday buffet

The club features an “all you can eat” buffet which includes beverage, deluxe salad bar, soup and dessert Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

### Golf Club, 221-4388

#### Spring Sale

For the spring sale, selected clothing at the Golf Club store will be 25 percent off.

#### Junior camp 2005

Classes will be offered on putting, chipping, etiquette, safety, irons, driver and fairway and woods.

#### Golf lessons

Private customized and personalized instruction are offered at the Golf Course.

### Bowling Center, 221-3683

#### Unit Bowling

Unit bowling is Wednesday from 3:30 to 5 p.m. and Thursday 12:30 to 5 p.m. Active duty bowlers pay \$3 per person for unlimited bowling, with up to eight Soldiers per lane.

#### Family Bowling Day

Every Sunday, adults and children 12 and up pay \$1.75 per game (children under 12 bowl free). Shoe rental is \$1.

#### Soldier appreciation

Soldier appreciation day is Saturday from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. The center offers free shoe rental and medium soda with purchase of game.

#### Cyber Bowl

Cyber Bowl is Saturdays from 8 to 10 p.m. The cost is \$10 per person 12 and up and \$5 per person under 12.

### Harlequin Dinner Theatre

The Harlequin Dinner Theatre will perform “The Nerd,” a comedy by Larry Shue, Wednesday through Saturday evenings through May 14. Discounts are available for military and students. For show times and tickets, call the box office at 222-9694.

### MWR Ticket Office

The ticket office has discount tickets available for several different events and attractions. For more information, call 226-1663 or visit [www.fortsamhoustonmwr.com](http://www.fortsamhoustonmwr.com).

## Car Care Clinic offers home, auto safety tips

**By Shasta Bell**  
**Morale, Welfare and Recreation**

Home and auto safety were the topics of discussion at the Car Care Clinic held at the Auto Craft Shop last Saturday.

Conrad Gonzales Jr., from Saving Lives Through Prevention and Education (SAFE) Familia, a touring group of safety entertainers and retired firemen, was the featured guest. Gonzales played a guitar while singing a medley of songs that contained a chorus of safety tips.

“The Car Care Clinic was very interesting and informative regarding the information on seat belts, fire safety and railroad crossings,”

said Ralph Riojas, facility manager of the Auto Craft Shop.

Critical safety information reinforced to participants included the dangers of ejecting airbags for children sitting in the front seat of a car, the tragic consequences of outrunning trains at railroad crossings and the correct way to test a smoke detector at home.

The workshop brought together a diverse group of people as the program provided general safety measures that people of all ages could understand.

Free food and general auto maintenance guidebooks were provided for attendees.

The Auto Craft Shop and Caliber Collision Center partnered together to provide the clinic.

# Irrigating landscapes properly saves plants, flowers, money

By Jackie Schlatter  
Environmental and Natural Resources Office

(Note: This is the fourth in a series of articles concerning “green living” and water conservation.)

Gardening and landscape maintenance can be more rewarding when you know a plants’ requirements. Therefore, it is important to identify those plants that are drought tolerant and those that are not.

Native and adapted plants from other areas are drought tolerant in San Antonio because they can survive the seasonal and even extreme droughts. Plants that are not drought resistant in San Antonio require more water. All plants can be made to be more resistant to droughts by being placed in a landscape where conditions are most favorable and by mulching. Watering deeply but infrequently can make plants more resistant as well.

New plantings will require a regular water supply for 18 to 24 months to get them established. After they are established, native and adapted plants will not require watering except in periods of severe drought.

Grasses typically change color when they need water. Bermuda and Zoysia turn slightly bluish, and the blade edges for St. Augustine turn yellow. Buffalo grass will eventually turn brown when it gets too dry, but usually stays greener than the other grass varieties. Turf grass blades don’t spring back from foot traffic when they need water.

Leaves of shrubs and trees will typically wilt, lose their glossiness, turn brown or fall off when they need water. Of course, this varies greatly depending upon the plant species. Well adapted plants such as natives are not ordinarily stressed by the frequent, hot, dry periods of summer experienced in San Antonio, or the cold snaps that come in winter.

Knowing when to water plants is an important factor in maintaining a healthy yard and can be a big water-saver. The best time to water is when plants need it. It’s important to get to know plants’ requirements. It is recommended

to water plants only during the early morning and early evening hours when temperatures are at or near their lowest, and the wind is quieter.

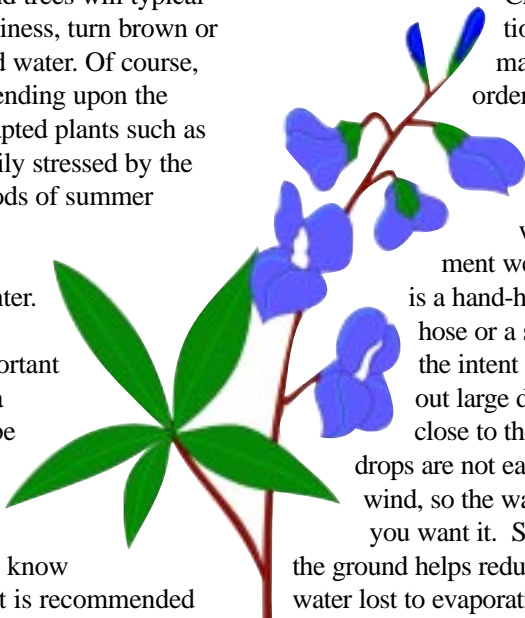
A plant’s needs for water change during the growing season. Watering at peak levels all year wastes water, and watering at a constant low rate all year would not provide enough water in the summer.

Change the irrigation schedule to match the season in order to be water wise. Efficient watering begins with the equipment we use. Whether it is a hand-held hose, soaker hose or a sprinkler system, the intent is to slowly put out large drops of water close to the ground. Large drops are not easily blown by the wind, so the water goes where you want it. Sprinkling close to the ground helps reduce the amount of water lost to evaporation. And, water-

ing slowly allows the water to soak in rather than become runoff. There are different watering methods in a landscape depending on the area and type of plants. Drip irrigation, which delivers water directly to the plant, is best for watering trees, shrubs and vegetable gardens. Soaker hoses and bubblers are good for watering flower beds and ground covers. Above-ground sprinklers and irrigation head sprinklers are best for lawn areas. Here are some tips to help conserve water:

- Don’t over-water. Use moisture sensors to measure the water content in the root zone.
- Don’t water by calendar day; water when plants need it.
- Apply infrequent, deep waterings.
- Check heads on automatic systems for damage, improper installation, or throw patterns that are too wide to not water the sidewalk or the street.

For more information, call Jackie Schlatter, Environmental and Natural Resources Office, at 221-5093 or stop by a local landscape or garden center.





# Top 'docs'

## Triumphant medics earn coveted Expert Field

**By Elaine Wilson**  
**Public Information Office**

For athletes, the ultimate goal is the Olympics or a coveted spot on a professional team. For military medics, it's the Expert Field Medical Badge.

“It’s a symbol of excellence,” said Capt. James Hall, EFMB officer in charge. “It exemplifies expert proficiency in your field.”

Any service member holding a medical occupational specialty can “try out” for the badge, which is earned through successfully conquering a two-week course held periodically at locations throughout the world. Fort Sam Houston’s EFMB course was at Camp Bullis in March.

Out of the 193 Soldiers who traveled here from as far away as the Sinai to try for the badge, only 14 made the final cut. Not bad, considering the average success rate throughout EFMB's 40 year history is 14 percent. Judging by the attrition rate, most people would say it's just as difficult to achieve as a draft to an NFL team.

Some barely made it past the initial briefs.

"It's all mental," Hall said. "Some quit during the first week of standardization; other battle through injuries and exhaustion to make it all the way."

The competition seems bent on eliminating the unresolved. It starts with a 100-question written test that covers topics like medical evacuation, field hygiene and sanitation, and basic emergency medicine.

“Historically, fifty percent or more won’t pass the written test,” Hall said. “People know what to study before they come here, but many fail to adequately prepare for the exam or underestimate its difficulty.”

Candidates, as they're called during the two-week trial, then move on to the physical challenge. During the first week, the cadre, who are primarily from the Army Medical Department Center and School and Brooke Army Medical Center, run the candidates through the "lanes" showing them the standard they must achieve to pass. The lanes are a series of exercises in medical- and common-skills tasks including day and night land navigation, communications, medical treatment and evacuation. Each lane has a separate scenario that, like a maze, the medics have to wind their way through to the other side, demonstrating their proficiency in various skills along the way.

One lane's scenario seems like a medic's worst nightmare — low crawls under barbed wire, fallen Soldiers at every turn, radio calls for help and litter-carrying maneuvers into a UH-60 helicopter. Some portions are timed, but just about all have to be done to perfection.

“The candidates can get a ‘no go’ on a few of the tasks and still pass, but they all have to pass the 9-line medevac request,” Hall said.

This deal breaker tests the medic's ability to relay nine pieces of information for a medical evacuation request so the incoming aircrew will know what to expect upon arrival.

“They have 25 seconds to get the first five lines out,” said Hall. “If they fail; they’re out.”

The candidates are also expected to maneuver a litter obstacle course, which is a team litter carry over walls and through narrow ravines; prioritize wounded; and load a front line ambulance.

After a week of standardization, which is almost as grueling as the test itself, the Soldiers are individually evaluated for their ability to do the same tasks “real time.” But this time, the cadre pull out the stops with smoke effects and simulated live fire.

“We try to make it as realistic as possible,” Hall said.



Capt. Troy Smith, from Fort Hood, Texas, celebrates the completion of a 12-mile road march for the Expert Field Medical Badge.

But for those who toughed it out this far, the carrot is still not quite in reach. The candidates still have to complete a 12-mile march across the rough terrain and hilly landscape at Camp Bullis while carrying a rucksack and weapon. A loss at this point can be a heartbreaker, as one Soldier found out. She was the 15th road marcher and missed the three-hour goal by less than one minute.

Others can relate to her disappointment.

"I failed miserably before, but I had to come back," said Spc. Adam Young, one of the 14 who achieved the badge. "I tried to stay optimistic the whole time."

Young, a medic who traveled from Sinai, Egypt, with five other Soldiers for the competition, said he “is very relieved it’s over.” Only two of the six passed.

Others make it on their first try.

Sgt. John Robak, from Fort Polk, La., took first place for the road march, with a time of 2 hours, 33 minutes and 25 seconds. "It got hard toward the end

but then I knew it was

Capt. Shane and  
tioned at Fort Sam E  
finish line of the road

“We were just ha

Some may ace the happy candidate macro physical and mental

"If you fail once, sergeant from the 23 and try. "It's just sor-

"This is what it is Houston and Army 1 ceremony. "This is a Only people who ha standard."



(Above) A candidate for the Expert Field Medical Badge maintains control of a "patient's" neck while orchestrating assistance from fellow Soldiers.

(Left) Maj. Gen. George Weightman, Fort Sam Houston Air Medical Department Center and School commander, congratulates 1st Lt. Camillo Ramirez on successfully completing mile road march and earning his Expert Field Medical Badge. Ramirez traveled from Sinai, Egypt, for the competition.

**Photo by Elaine Wilson**



# Medical Badge



Photo by Elaine Wilson

he culminating event in the two-week competition

almost done,” he said.  
nicole Koppenhaver, married physical therapists sta-  
uston and also first timers, beat the odds and crossed the  
march together.  
y we both made it,” Nicole said.  
est, but others need a few repeat performances. One  
it on his eighth try. Despite the odds and the grueling  
sts, something keeps the Soldiers coming back.  
s in your blood,” said Sgt. 1st Class John Ernst, a drill  
id Medical Battalion, who earned the badge on his sec-  
thing you got to do.”  
ll about,” said Maj. Gen. George Weightman, Fort Sam  
dical Department commander, at the medal-pinning  
olutely related to real world and is relevant training.  
the badge know how tough it is. You’ve exceeded the



Photos by Sgt. 1st Class David Falk



Pfc. Jason Thomas, from the 21st Combat Support Hospital at Fort Hood, Texas, transmits a medical evacuation request.



Capt. Harry Wright, from the 704th Support Battalion at Fort Hood, Texas, prepares to treat his “casualty” for an evacuated abdominal wound.



ntains  
e from



Pvt. Carleton Thrall, from Fort Polk, La., gives medical aid to a “casualty” for a suspected arm fracture.



Staff Sgt. Timothy Kibbe, from the 21st Combat Support Hospital at Fort Hood, Texas, leads the way for a four-man team maneuvering a narrow passage with a litter and live “patient.”

l Army  
gratu-  
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badge.



# Robert G. Cole Jr./Sr. High School honor roll

Many Robert G. Cole students attained academic success for the first nine weeks of the 2004-2005 school year. Students must earn a grade of 90 or higher in all classes for the A Honor Roll and a grade of 80 or higher in all classes with at least one grade of 90 or higher for the A/B Honor Roll.

|   |   |   |  |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|--|---|---|---|
| <b>A Honor Roll</b><br><b>Third Nine Weeks</b><br><b>Seventh grade</b><br>Devante` Dwyer<br>Troy Griffith<br>Margaret Manalo<br>Austin Villarreal<br>Lindsey Wafford<br><b>Eighth grade</b><br>Kelsey Charlton<br>Casey Gresenz<br>Dallas Herndon<br>Kathryn Rarig<br>Kaitlan Vasquez<br><b>Ninth grade</b><br>Carla Cartagena<br>Jennifer Gibson<br>Daniel Heaney<br>Caitlin Mester<br>Patrick Newcomer<br>Jennifer Sees<br>Katherine Teeter<br><b>10th grade</b><br>Roy Aviles<br>Michelle McClendon<br>John Millnik<br><b>11th grade</b><br>Caitlin Gresenz<br>Amy Rarig<br>Jaimie Siegle<br><b>12th grade</b><br>Jennifer Bagg<br>Sarah Caouette<br>Benjamin Carter<br>Sean Chislett<br>Alexa Collins<br>Scott Gibson<br>Bryce Kinsey<br>Tara Trepkowski  | Brandy Godfrey<br>Christina Gonzales<br>Samantha Gonzalez<br>Shaniquea Johnson<br>Wesley Lavender<br>Jordan Maney<br>Dustin Reitsetter<br>Lukas Sheridan<br>Jacob Stonecipher<br>Chris Swiderski<br>Ginger Thompson<br><b>10th grade</b><br>D’Dra Almuina<br>Mary Arneson<br>Tierra Boykins<br>Kathryn Bruce<br>Kristen Bryant<br>Anne Cenney<br>Sarah Clark<br>Devon Daley<br>Alexander Dochnal<br>Tiara Ellison | Allison Erickson<br>Gregory Farris Burrell<br>Shawta Ham<br>Chaquille Hicks<br>Jazmin Huling<br>Brad Kelley<br>Arvin King<br>Thomas Leeds<br>Lionel Lowery III<br>Lisa Nieves<br>Paul Parker<br>Dianisse Plaza<br>Brittany Polite<br>Douglas Raymond, Jr.<br>Judonn Roberson<br>Fabian Rodriguez<br>Melissa Velez<br>Chelsea Woodard<br>Jasmine Young<br><b>11th grade</b><br>Elizabeth Bagg<br>Amanda Bray | Jake Buchanan<br>Porsha Cordova<br>Robert Dillard, Jr.<br>Brittany Fryson<br>Ashley Hatton<br>Joshua Heaney<br>Shaunteia Johnson<br>Stephen Lagutchik<br>Dajuon Mobley<br>Marcos Montes<br>Leah Morris | James Raymond<br>Benjamin Reitsetter<br>Steven Rhodes<br>Zachary Sheridan<br>Donall Shipman<br>Michael Sloan-Santos<br>Brittany Swiger<br>Kayla Terry<br>Jason West<br>Hailey Wisely<br><b>12th grade</b> | Michael Biggerstaff<br>Stephen Biggerstaff<br>Jonathan Brown<br>Deanza Cordova<br>Brian Grezler<br>Denny Harris<br>Amy Jackson<br>Joie Jolivette<br>Ashley Kelley<br>Justin Maas<br>Ashley Nieves | Antonio Pena, Jr.<br>Erika Persaud<br>Hector Rojas Alvarado<br>Jonathan Simpkins<br>Matthew Sisk<br>Cha Na Sok<br>James Starcher<br>Christian Vega<br>Cristina Velez<br>Nadine Willis |
| <b>A/B Honor Roll</b><br><b>Third Nine Weeks</b><br><b>Seventh grade</b><br>Jacqueline Arnold<br>Rebekah Brown<br>Sally Gore<br>Shaquira Hall<br>Andre Hardnett-Hamilton<br>Catherine Perkins<br>Kiera Petty<br>Hillary Pini<br>Michael Rinehart<br>Michael Sees<br>Adam Shaw<br>Kaitlin Sheridan<br>Brittany Starr<br>Alyssa Swiderski<br>Karen Thompson<br>Alexander Verhulst<br><b>Eighth grade</b><br>Alexandria Boykins<br>Akaia Brown<br>Clara Buchanan<br>Trey Campbell<br>Adriona Cleveland<br>Jamiah Collins<br>Amberkay Crotts<br>Crystal Escalante<br>Felicia Fields<br>Erika Hoffman<br>Justin Jolley<br>Kara Kahue<br>Alexandra Mazak<br>Kyle Morneau<br>Aaron Mullins<br>Thomas Polk<br>Peter Simpkins<br>Undre’ Stoker<br>Timothy Ta<br>Ryan Tucker<br><b>Ninth grade</b><br>Bryan Bauman<br>Samantha Benson<br>Martha Brown<br>Tyler Campbell |   |   |  |   |   |   |

# SCHOOL NEWS

## S2S ensures successful transitions

### Program eases move to new schools

Story by Dr. Gloria Davila  
Fort Sam Houston ISD associate superintendent

The Army’s 1999 Secondary Education Transition Study revealed that most military-connected students transition more than two times during their high school years. Numerous transitions during a student’s formative years create special challenges in learning and performance. To alleviate transition issues, Cole Jr./Sr. High School has implemented the Student to Student (S2S) Program, initiated and sponsored by the Military Child Education Coalition. The program uses student trainers to help change a transitioning student’s focal point from what the student just lost to what the student will gain. “Moving to a new place and adjusting to a new school, new teachers and new friends are daunting and scary experiences for

school age children, especially if the child faces the experience more than once,” said Julie Coffey, Cole Senior High School counselor. “The S2S program is designed to guide students through those uncertain surroundings and offer valuable information, friendship and assistance in areas that matter most to transitioning students.” A team from Cole, including Coffey; Keith Toney, school liaison officer and Fort Sam Houston ISD board president; and juniors Jamie Siegle and Owen Black, traveled to Dallas to receive S2S training. Upon their return, team members trained students to assist inbound and outbound transitioning students with academics and relationships with other students, faculty and staff; and to offer information about the campus, community and local culture. “Transitioning students have very real needs, such as a need for immediate positive peer relationships and someone to trust and talk to, or a compelling need to feel welcomed, accepted and understood,” said Owen Black, Cole junior and S2S trainer. “The S2S program provides that critical edge for a successful transition.”



Courtesy photo

Cole junior Jamie Siegle (left) completes a task with help from Cole junior Owen Black and Keith Toney, Fort Sam Houston school liaison officer and Fort Sam Houston ISD board president, during the Student to Student Program Training Conference.

**FSH Independent School District**  
**Weekly Campus Activities**  
**Monday to April 16**

**Fort Sam Houston Elementary School**  
Book Fair – Monday to April 15  
**Monday**  
Pre-registration packets go home  
Book Fair hours, 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
**Tuesday**  
Book fair hours, 7:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.  
Ice cream social, 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.  
**Wednesday**  
Book Fair hours, 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Early dismissal, 2:30 p.m.  
**April 14**  
Book Fair hours, 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Sixth grade spinal screening  
**April 16**  
Book Fair hours, 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Pre-registration packets due back  
Sixth grade spinal screening  
Spirit Day

**Robert G. Cole Jr./Sr. High School**  
**Monday**  
District golf tourney at Comfort, TBA  
**Tuesday**  
Baseball at Johnson City, 7 p.m.  
**April 14**  
UIL District 27AA track meet at Randolph High School, TBA  
**April 15**  
UIL District 27AA track meet at Randolph High School, TBA  
**April 16**  
Baseball vs. Randolph at Cole, noon

## Fort Sam Houston ISD seeks nominations for Board of Trustees

The Fort Sam Houston Independent School District seeks people for its five-member Board of Trustees. Volunteers are nominated by the U.S. Army Garrison commander and appointed by the State Board of Education. The Board of Trustees is responsible for setting policy for Fort Sam Houston ISD and making decisions based on the educational welfare of all children served by the district. Enlisted service members or their spouses, spouses of military officers and civilians employed on the installation may serve. Military officers cannot serve as Board of Trustees members based on U.S. Code 973 (b), which prohibits an officer from accepting a state civil office. A majority of the trustees must be civilians. Board members’ requirements include:

- Resident of Texas for the past 12 months
- Registered Texas voter
- Fort Sam Houston resident or employee
- Volunteer time and serve without compensation

- Serve a two-year term of office
  - Attend monthly board meetings
  - Accomplish training (20 hours the first year and eight hours the second)
  - Attend special school events and functions
- People who meet the general qualifications can be considered for a position by submitting a resume with name, home and work addresses, phone numbers, marital status, ages of children (if applicable), educational and work background, community activities, current association with any school(s) and any other applicable personal information. Volunteers must also submit a memorandum stating that they meet the qualifications. For more information or a copy of the memorandum format, call Brenda Berry at 295-4806 or Keith Toney at 221-9613. Application materials must be submitted by May 13 to Headquarters, U.S. Army Garrison, ATTN: MCCS-GCA-CYSD, Fort Sam Houston, Texas 78234-5020.

## Cole Sports update . . .

**Cole Cougars up record to 9-2**  
The Cole baseball team beat Randolph 5-2 last week to increase their record to nine wins and one loss. Matt Newcomer picked up the win and also hit a home run to help the Cougars’ offense. Cole lost a 7-6 heartbreaker to Navarro last Friday. The game went eight innings before Navarro singled in the winning run. Matt Newcomer relieved James Raymond in the fifth inning and picked up his first loss of the season. Mike Ruiz hit his second home run of the year, while Ryan Boyles hit a two-run triple. Cole is now 9-2 for the season and 2-1 in district play. Darrell Kurek, history teacher, is the baseball team coach.

**Cole Girls’ Track team competes at Randolph**  
The girls’ track team competed in the Randolph Field track meet Saturday. The following varsity team members brought home medals: Michelle McClendon, first place in the 100 meter sprint; Nicole Ham, fourth place for shot put; Mile Relay team — Michelle McClendon, Brittany Maas, Meghan Rinehart and Martha Brown — placed sixth. Joella Allen, health teacher, is the track team coach. In the junior varsity squad, Chaquille Hicks took third place in the shot put and Jazmin Huling took sixth place in both the shot put and the discus throw.

**Cole’s Raymond wins top medalist again**  
The Cole golf team traveled to Comfort, Texas, early last week to take part in the 2005 Comfort Bobcat Golf Invitational played at the Buckhorn Golf Course. The Buckhorn is a 6,648-yard, par 71 course. The Cougars came away with a team total of 355, just 14 strokes out of first place. James Raymond shot an amazing 69, two below par, to qualify as top medalist for the tournament. The district tournament will be held April 11 at the same course. Coach Jim Cox, business education teacher, hopes to shave at least 20 strokes off the team score.

# CHILD AND YOUTH SERVICES

**Fiesta volunteers needed**  
Youth Services needs volunteers to assist with concession stands, moon bounces and carnival games during the Fort Sam Houston Fiesta Celebration April 17. For more information or to sign up, call the Youth Center at 221-3502.

**Art and crafts**  
Arts and crafts classes for middle school students and teen-agers are Mondays from 4 to 5 p.m. at the Youth Center. The class will make mosaic flower pots Monday and cascarones in celebration of Fiesta April 18.

**Sports registration**  
Child and Youth Services still has openings for baseball, softball and T-ball season. The cost is \$45 for the first child, \$40 for the second and \$35 for the third child of the same family. The cost is \$30 per child for 3-

to 4-year-old first step T-ball. Youth must be registered with CYS to participate. A birth certificate and physical are required to play. For more information, call 221-3502 or 221-5513.

**Cheer Clinic**  
Youth Services offers a weekly cheer clinic for two age groups: 5- to 8-year-olds and 8- to 12-year-olds. The 8- to 12-year-olds meet Mondays from 6 to 7 p.m. and the 5- to 8-year-olds meet Wednesdays from 6 to 7 p.m. The cost is \$30 per month per child. All participants must be registered with Child and Youth Services. For more information, call 221-3502 or 221-5513.

**Ultimate Journey Club**  
The Ultimate Journey Club will meet Tuesday at 4 p.m. to plan spring and summer activities. The club seeks youth who

enjoy being outdoors and visiting state parks. For more information, call 221-3502.

**Photo Club**  
The Photo Club will meet April 28 from 4 to 5 p.m. to discuss plans for the summer and videos for the Youth Center. For more information, call 221-3502.

**Junior Teen Dance**  
There will be a Junior Teen Dance for sixth to eighth graders Saturday from 8 to 10 p.m. The cost is \$2 for members and \$3 for nonmembers.

**Cooking Classes**  
The cooking class meets Friday from 4 to 5 p.m. to make strawberry danish cake. Tamale pie is on the menu for April 16 and flower garden cake for April 22. For more information, call 221-3502.

**Teen trip**  
The teens will take a trip to the River Center Mall Saturday from 3:30 to 7 p.m. Bring spending money. For more information, call 221-3502.

**PAC meeting**  
Child and Youth Services Parent Advisory Council meeting will be April 19 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Child Development Center, 2530 Funtston. Lunch will be provided. This is CYS parents’ opportunity to learn of upcoming events, meet staff and address concerns. Family Advocacy will be speaking on child abuse prevention.

**FCC training**  
Family Child Care will have an installation training for new providers April 25 to 29 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, call 221-3828.



# Countdown to post’s Fiesta celebration continues

By Yolanda Hagberg  
Public Information Office

There are now 10 days until the highly anticipated Fort Sam Houston Fiesta celebration April 17 from 1 to 9 p.m. at MacArthur Field, corner of Harry Wurzbach and Stanley Roads. As the post residents begin to spruce up the area for spring clean up, other coordination continues in preparation for the day-long Fiesta event.

The popular Golden Knights Army Parachute Team will begin the Fiesta salute with aerial acrobatics and precision landings at 4:30 p.m. on MacArthur Field. The ceremony will include other military units visiting from Fort Myer, Va., that include the U.S. Army Drill Team, known for its precision and spectacular rifle toss routines and the Fife and Drum Corps dressed in colonial-style period uniforms. A traditional Army pass in review of Soldiers competing for best marching unit and a performance by the equestrienne team “Escaramuza Rosa de Castilla” are also on the schedule.

Music lovers will enjoy a special concert by Keni Thomas from 7 to



7:45 p.m. with the sounds of Country and Western music. The popular 82nd Airborne Chorus from Fort Bragg, N.C., will add their special musical talents by singing acappella from 8 to 8:20 p.m. The U.S. Army Medical Command Band will perform the “1812 Overture” leading up to a spectacular fireworks finale at 9:15 p.m.

**Country Fair from 1 to 9 p.m.**

A Country Fair featuring military equipment displays and exhibits, kiddie’s carnival, games, food and drink booths will begin at 1 p.m. Also, live entertainment will include the Rainbow Kids, “Sin Limite,” Latin Band, Bahia Flamingo Dancers in colorful Fiesta-style costumes, the Texas Twisters Country and Western line dancers, and much more.

Visitors are advised to use the Walters Street Gate off Interstate Highway 35 and are reminded that coolers and pets are not permitted during the event.

For more information, visit [www.samhouston.army.mil](http://www.samhouston.army.mil), click on MWR, click on Special Events, and on Fiesta Fireworks.

# City celebrates Fiesta April 15 to 24

This year marks the 114th celebration of this unique festival, which honors the heroes of the Alamo and the winning of Texas independence at the Battle of San Jacinto.

San Antonio will celebrate Fiesta April 15 to 24. During this timeframe, more than 3 million people will take part in a crazy magical frenzy called “Fiesta” throughout the city of San Antonio.

Listed below are just a few of the events open to the public:

**April 15**

9 to 10 a.m. - Fiesta San Antonio Official Opening Ceremony in front of the Alamo

5 to 11 p.m. - Fiesta Oyster Bake, St. Mary’s University Campus, One Camino Santa Maria

**April 16**

7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. - 10K Walk: Caminada de Fiesta, through Fort Sam Houston, the San Antonio Botanical Gardens and the Army Medical Department Museum located at Stanley and Harry Wurzbach Roads

7:30 to 8:30 p.m. - Investiture of King Antonio LXXXIII in front of the Alamo

**April 17**

8 to 9 a.m. - Fiesta Mariachi Mass, San Fernando Cathedral, 115 Main Plaza

3 to 5:30 p.m. - Day in Old Mexico and Charreada, 6125 Padre Drive

**April 18**

11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. - Air Force at the Alamo

4 to 5 p.m. - Pilgrimage to the Alamo, procession from Municipal Auditorium to the Alamo

7:30 to 9:30 p.m. - Texas Cavaliers’ River Parade through the San Antonio River

**April 19**

5:30 to 10:30 p.m. - A Night in Old San Antonio begins, La Villita

7 to 9 p.m. - Fiesta in Blue at Laurie Auditorium, Trinity University, 715 Stadium Drive

7 to 10 p.m. - Mariachi Festival, River Walk, River Bend and extension of the Paseo del Rio

**April 20**

9:30 to 10:15 a.m. - Lackland Fiesta Military Parade at Lackland Air Force Base parade grounds

3 p.m. to midnight - Texas Guard Fiesta, Texas National Guard Armory, 4255 Interstate Highway 35

**April 21**

11 a.m. to 1 p.m. - Navy Day at the Alamo

4 to 5 p.m. - Marines at the Alamo

7 to 9:15 p.m. - Battle of Flowers Band Festival at the Alamo Stadium

**April 22**

11:50 a.m. to 5 p.m. - Battle of Flowers Parade, downtown San Antonio, beginning on Broadway and Grayson Streets

**April 23**

10 a.m. to 6 p.m. - King William Fair and Parade in the King William Historic District on South Alamo Street

6:50 to 10:30 p.m. - Fiesta Flambeau Parade through downtown San Antonio

**April 24**

8 a.m. to 5 p.m. - Fiesta Grande bicycle Classic, Texas Research Park, 14815 Omicron

1 to 5:30 p.m. - Day in Old Mexico and Charreada, 6125 Padre Drive

For more information on Fiesta 2005 in San Antonio, visit [www.fiesta-sa.org](http://www.fiesta-sa.org).

(Source: Fiesta Brochure)



# COMMUNITY LINK



## Happenings

**Opportunity for Soldier musicians**

Soldier musicians specializing in rock or hip-hop and interested in having their music highlighted in the video game “America’s Army: Rise of a Soldier” have until April 21 to submit pre-recorded, studio-quality work for consideration. Ubisoft Entertainment and the U.S. Army are working together on a new experience for console gamers. For more information, call Winsome Young, Ubisoft publishing assistant, at 415-547-4046 or e-mail her at [Winsome.Young@ubisoft.com](mailto:Winsome.Young@ubisoft.com).

**New Braunfels Children’s Benefit Walk**

The New Braunfels Marsch und Wandergruppe volksmarch club will host a 10-kilometer (6.2 mile) and 5-kilometer walk Saturday starting at the Landa Haus, 360 Aquatic Circle in Landa Park in New Braunfels, Texas. The walk route is through Landa Park, historic downtown New Braunfels and Panther Canyon. All proceeds from the walk will benefit the New Braunfels area communities and schools and will be used to provide shoes to kids in need. The walk begins between 8 a.m. and noon and will finish by 3 p.m. For more information, call Helgard Suhr-Hollis at (830) 625-6330, e-mail [phollis@satx.rr.com](mailto:phollis@satx.rr.com) or visit [www.walktexas.org/](http://www.walktexas.org/).

**School food fair**

The Cole Jr./Sr. High School Cougar Pride Club will host “The Taste of Cole” April 15 from 6 to 8 p.m. in the cafeteria. Food booths and fun activities for the entire family will be available. Admission is \$5. For more information on how to enter a food booth, call the campus office or e-mail Angela Jolivette, event coordinator, at [ajolivet@fort-sam-houston.k12.tx.us](mailto:ajolivet@fort-sam-houston.k12.tx.us).

**Fiesta tickets**

The Cougar Pride Club of Robert G. Cole High School has parade tickets for the April 22 Battle of the Flowers and April 23 Fiesta Flambeau. The tickets are \$8 and the seats are

located along the 100 block of East Commerce Street. All proceeds go to the Cougar Pride Club, which provides scholarships to students and contributes to various activities at Cole High School. For tickets, call Lana Dochnal at 226-2746.

**Free SeaWorld admissions**

Anheuser-Busch adventure parks will salute the men and women of the armed forces and their families throughout 2005 under its “Here’s to the Heroes” special. Military members and as many as three direct dependents may enter any one of Anheuser-Busch’s SeaWorld, Busch Gardens or Sesame Place parks with a single-day complimentary admission. Eligible members can either register online at [www.herosalute.com](http://www.herosalute.com) or in the entrance plaza of participating parks, and must show a Department of Defense-issued photo ID. For more information, visit [www.herosalute.com](http://www.herosalute.com).

**AFTB classes**

Army Family Team Building will offer a series of classes and workshops April 18 and 19 at the Roadrunner Community Center, 2010 Stanley Road. The topics include building relationships, AFTB Level 1 and problem solving. For more information, call the AFTB office at 221-0275.

## Professional Development

**OCSC to award scholarships**

The Fort Sam Houston Officer and Civilians Spouses’ Club will award scholarships to qualified recipients in May. Scholarships are open to family members of active duty, active Guard and Reserve and retired or deceased Army personnel who reside in the San Antonio area. Two categories will be awarded, one to a graduating high school senior and one to an adult continuing education. Interested students may obtain an application through their high school counselor or by contacting Janie Gamez at 212-6951.

**‘Jobs for Veterans’ seminar**

The Army Career and Alumni Program Center will sponsor a “Job for Veterans” seminar April 14 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Blesse Auditorium, Building 2841, Army Medical Department Center and School. All military personnel, family members, transitioning personnel, medical hold personnel, civilians, retirees and veterans are invited. For more information call Russell Matthias at 221-1213 or e-mail [Russell.Matthias@us.army.mil](mailto:Russell.Matthias@us.army.mil).

**‘Working for America’ booth at PX**

The Office of Personnel Management will have a booth on display in the main lobby of the Fort Sam Houston Post Exchange April 14 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

## Volunteer

**Animal Defense League drive**

The Boy Scouts Troop 23 will sponsor an animal supply drive and bake sale April 16 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Post Exchange, PXtra and commissary. They will collect dog and cat food, collars, blankets, leashes, cat litter, towels and blankets. All items will be donated to the Animal Defense League on Nacogdoches.

**WHMC periodontics seeks patients**

The Wilford Hall Medical Center Department of Periodontics at Lackland Air Force Base seeks patients with specific needs for treatment in the Periodontics Residency program. Applicants must be a military retiree, family member of a retiree or family member of an active duty member and have been recently determined by a dentist to have an existing periodontal condition. Eligible patients must have a written consult from their referring dentist and can either bring it to MacKown Dental Clinic or fax it to 292-5193. For more information, call 292-7273.

**Student exchange program**

Families interested in sponsoring foreign exchange high school students for the coming 2005-2006 fall semester can call the program

coordinator, Yvette Coffman, at (800) 941-3738 or e-mail [ycoffman@sharesouthwest.org](mailto:ycoffman@sharesouthwest.org).

## Meetings

**Silver Caduceus Society luncheon**

The Fort Sam Houston Silver Caduceus Society will host its quarterly luncheon at the Sam Houston Club April 14 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The guest speaker is Col. Keith Parker, Directorate of Combat Developments director at the Army Medical Department Center and School. Parker will provide information on AMEDD transformation. Attendees must be seated by 11:30 a.m. The luncheon is buffet style and will cost \$10 payable at the door. For more information, call Maj. Cheryl Zeise at 221-9922.

**Wives of warriors**

Deployed Spouses Support Group in affiliation with Protestant Women of the Chapel meet every second and fourth Wednesday of the month at the Dodd Field Chapel at noon for worship, fellowship and support. For more information, call Wendy at 559-3497 or e-mail her at [whfeagler@yahoo.com](mailto:whfeagler@yahoo.com).

**Aging conference**

Texas Association of Area Agencies on Aging along with other government agencies will host a conference on aging April 24 through 27 at the Omni Hotel. This year’s conference will conduct 29 workshops offering a variety of educational topics and numerous networking opportunities. For more information, visit [www.texasconferenceonaging.org](http://www.texasconferenceonaging.org).

**SMA seeks new members**

The Fort Sam Houston Sergeants Major Association meets every third Thursday of the month at 6 p.m. in the Sam Houston Club. Command Sgt. Maj. Timothy W. Burke, president of the association, invites active duty and retired command sergeants major, sergeants major and master sergeants on the promotion list from all service branches to the meetings. For more information, call Sgt. Maj. Danielle Lewis at 916-4114 or retired Sgt. Maj. Kyong Nichols at 221-1266.

# FORT FREEBIES

*Freebies are published on a first-come, first-served basis. Commercial advertisements are prohibited. The deadline is noon Monday. Freebies are intended for personal household goods and privately owned property, and may only be submitted by active, retired or reserve component military members and civilian employees working on Fort Sam Houston. Real estate ads will not be published. To submit paid classified ads or commercial advertising, call Prime Time at 453-3300. To submit a Fort Freebie, e-mail to news.leader@samhouston.army.mil or fax to 221-1198. Ensure your military and Fort Sam Houston civil service status, phone number and name appear on request. Freebies run for one week unless submitter calls to renew. There is a two-week maximum and a limit of five items per entry.*



**For Sale:** White and beige queen sleep-er sofa, \$75. Call 822-7900 or 385-6680.

**For Sale:** 1976 Datsun 280Z and 1988 Mazda RX-7, great project cars, both need engine and body work, \$500 each. Call Manny at 521-6728 or 380-9369.

**For Sale:** COMPAQ Presario desktop computer S5200NX; 2.7GHZ, 1 GB RAM, 120 GB HD, CD-RW, DVD-ROM, mouse and keyboard, cables, restore discs, HP 3820 inkjet printer with cartridges, SVA LCD 15-inch flat screen monitor, \$600. Call Rick at 273-2307.

**For Sale:** Brand new Maytag washer, five speed heavy duty oversize capacity plus, \$250 obo. Call 299-1036 and leave message.

**For Sale:** Blue leather sofa and

loveseat with plush pillow-top cushions, well maintained, \$1,200 obo; Cannon laser printer, fax, copier (all in one), \$85 obo. Call Tracey at 862-3071.

**For Sale:** 2002 Itasca Sunova motor home, 31-feet long with slide, many accessories, 5,500 miles, \$60,000; 2003 Honda Civic EX tow car, 13,000 miles for the motor home, \$15,000; will sell both for \$72,000 obo. Call Mac at 437-0042.

**For Sale:** Deluxe hand wax and car-wash pass, no expiration date, good at several San Antonio locations, \$70 value, will sell for \$50; classic Schwinn collegiate boys 26-inch, five-speed bike, light green, fully equipped including lights and generator, easily restorable, \$100 firm.

Call John Reedy at 295-6131.

**For Sale:** 1993 Ford Explorer, Eddie Bauer edition, black and tan, 196K miles, good condition, \$3,200. Call 657-3983 in the evenings and weekends.

**For Sale:** Beige ceramic lamp, no shade, \$10; dress blues uniform, 40-inch jacket, 30- or 32-inch by 31-inch trousers, \$100; semi-sheers, champagne color, six panels, each 80 inches by 60 inches, \$50; youth full-size comforter set, purple and white bed skirt, two shams plus matching full size sheet set, with pillows, \$20. Call 697-9261.

**For Sale:** Afghan rug, 8 feet by 10 1/2 feet, paid \$850, will sell for \$175; formal dining table and chairs, paid \$2,300, will sell for \$1,200. Call 262-3892.

**For Sale:** Fifteen-foot Coleman canoe, \$150 obo; potters wheel, electric, \$250; electric kiln, \$250. Call 650-5986.

**For Sale:** Rottweiler, female, 10 months old, great with kids, \$250 obo; children’s Step Two battery powered blue sports car, paid \$199, will sell for \$60. Call Marilyn at 822-9491.

**For Sale:** Black diamond plate, tall corners for CJ with cutouts, never used, \$85 obo; 1985 CJ Jeep Wrangler, burgundy, classic, six inline, radio/cassette, hard top, soft and bikini top, \$6,000; all-inclusive resort vacation package for two, airfare not included, \$500 obo; Audi TT full spare or extra tire with rim, \$100; Jeep Wrangler spare tire with rim, \$45. Call 651-9168.